

APPROVED



**SCOTTSDALE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
PINNACLE TRAINING ROOM
7575 EAST MAIN STREET
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA 85251
MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2004**

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: John Tutelman, Chair
Ken Culver, Vice Chair
Marty Gendron, Commissioner
Carol Padwe, Commissioner
Enid Seiden, Commissioner
Ted Tyler, Commissioner

ABSENT: Aubrey Strickstein, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT: Velicia McMillan, Staff Liaison

OTHERS PRESENT FOR ALL OR PORTIONS OF THE MEETING:

Jamie Liebowitz

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tutelman called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

A formal roll call confirmed members present as stated above.

**PROMOTING UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY PROGRAM APPLICATION
SUBMITTAL:**

Chair Tutelman requested the commissioners' review and discuss the merits of the application submitted for PUCP funds. Dr. McMillan passed out a copy of the proposal.

Jamie Liebowitz provided an overview of her proposal. She explained that she has been a Girl Scout for 10 years and is working on the Gold Award and is creating a diversity workshop for Second through Fourth Graders. She further explained that UniTown and AnyTown impacted her so she wanted to reach kids at a younger age to introduce diversity what it is and how to cope with it.

Dr. McMillan reported Ms. Liebowitz came to see her four or five weeks ago, floated her concept by me, and asked for assistance in this area. Dr. McMillan further reported she has some solid tools and will be using the book "The Skin I'm In". Ms. Liebowitz noted that she has purchased that book for each kid that participates.

Commissioner Tyler inquired if Ms. Liebowitz has done any advertising for this workshop. Ms. Liebowitz replied in the affirmative noting she has an interview with the Arizona Republic on Wednesday and has posted fliers around her neighborhood. She sent fliers to the Scottsdale School District on this workshop. She remarked that there are 80 spots for two classes. Commissioner Seiden stated she is a teacher at Cherokee and she did not see the flier. Dr. McMillan replied we would get something to Cherokee.

Commissioner Tyler inquired if Ms. Liebowitz has received any feedback from the parents. Ms. Liebowitz replied some parents were concerned regarding being delicate regarding how she brings up racism but she explained that she would not be focusing on racism but focusing on unity and how our differences make us special.

Commissioner Gendron inquired if it would be possible for City Channel 11 to videotape this workshop. Dr. McMillan stated she would find out.

Commissioner Gendron made a motion to accept Ms. Liebowitz proposal for PUCP funds for her promoting unity program in the amount of \$250.00. Second by Commissioner Seiden and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Seiden stated she felt it would be a good to have this workshop filmed. Commissioner Gendron stated if City Cable 11 is not available maybe there would be a teacher at Saguaro who could film this workshop.

REVIEW OF SEPTEMBER MINUTES

Commissioner Gendron inquired about the motion regarding the Commission partner with the Anti-Defamation League and work with the Scottsdale School District if the intent was to limit just work with the School District or should it be anyone in the

community. Dr. McMillan stated the intent of the motion was to have emphasis on the School District noting that Scottsdale School Districts is reflective of any Scottsdale resident who attends.

Chair Tutelman requested a correction on Page 4; Barisey should be spelled Baracy.

Commissioner Seiden requested a correction on Page 4, under Regional Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Walk the sentence that reads: "Commissioner Seiden reported the cost of sponsorship per City is \$1,500". It should be changed to read Dr. McMillan reported....

Commissioner Gendron moved to approve the September 13, 2004 meeting minutes as amended. Second by Commissioner Seiden and passed unanimously.

PROMOTING UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY PROGRAM APPLICATION SUBMITTAL:

The Commission continued the discussion on the Community Program application submittal. The consensus of the Commission was that Ms. Liebowitz program was great. A discussion ensued regarding the difficulty of disseminating information to the schools.

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR COMMUNITY & JUSTICE'S

Dr. McMillan inquired if the Commission wanted to consider participation in the National Conference for Community & Justice's "Walk as One" Sunday, November 21, 2005, 1:00 at Kiwanis Park, Tempe. The Walk as One is designed to bring people together to make a public statement that while we may hold different beliefs, be in competition in business or on the playing field, or come from different backgrounds and experiences, when it comes to the belief that all people are deserving of respect and basic human rights, we can Walk as One.

She suggested discussing this Walk as One event at the Regional HRC meeting and seeing if all of the HRC's could participate.

Vice Chair Culver stated that he would not be able to participate because the NCCJ are against the GLBT community. Dr. McMillan replied she would call them and confirm what Vice Chair Culver has said and suggested holding off on this discussion until she has contacted them. The consensus of the Commission was that if they do not respect the GLBT community we would not support this event.

THE REGIONAL UNITY WALK

Commissioner Padwe reported the Unity Walk would be held on Saturday, February 5, 2005 convening at Tempe Town Lake.

Commissioner Seiden stated she has found funding for the T-shirts. Dr. McMillan passed out a copy of the sponsorship letter. The Commission reviewed the letter and provided their feedback and comments.

VALLEY-WIDE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION CONVERSATIONAL EXCHANGE

Chair Tutelman announced the Scottsdale Human Relations Commission would host the next Valley-Wide HRC Conversational Exchange on Monday, November 8, 2004 in this room.

Dr. McMillan reviewed the agenda.

The Commission discussed options for a different meeting location.

HISPANIC HERITAGE CELEBRATION/MESA DIVERSITY CONFERENCE FEEDBACK

Chair Tutelman reported that he attended the Hispanic Celebration noting it was a wonderful event.

Commissioner Gendron stated that he felt it was a great event. He further stated that a Mexican lady came up to him at the event and complained that there were other things going on that were not Mexican.

Dr. McMillan reported the Mayor, a couple of Council Members', and the City Manager were at the event.

Commissioner Gendron stated it would be nice if the Commission had a logo. Dr. McMillan stated the Commission could use the City logo.

Commissioner Gendron provided an update on the Diversity Conference. He reported there was a theater group at the conference that was good but promoted Proposition 400. He further reported that we should make sure when we hire people they do not have their own agenda. Dr. McMillan replied she did not think Mesa knew.

VALLEY-WIDE HRC PSA

Chair Tutelman reported the PSA is in production and the intent is to have it completed for the November 8, 2004 Valley-Wide HRC Conversational Exchange.

Dr. McMillan stated that Chair Tutelman and herself have been working with Mesa Public Schools, David Luna, and Fernando Cordova on the PSA.

CHAIR REPORT

Chair Tutelman provided information on the US Attorney's Hate Crimes Working Group meeting that he attended. He reported there was an incident where skinheads crashed parties and yelling racist threats and hurt people. He further reported there was also an incident discussed regarding the arrest of a White Street Gang member from California who was arrested in Scottsdale on a parole violation.

Dr. McMillan stated that we need to address the elements that bring these types of people here. She further stated this might be an issue to partner with the ADL on.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

Vice Chair Culver reported he attended the Pagan Pride Festival, and the Rainbow Festival.

Vice Chair Culver reported there was a reggae group that performed at a club in Scottsdale that was anti-everybody. He further reported that he attended this event wearing the SHRC badge. He explained there was an incident that took place where he had words with this group.

Dr. McMillan explained that the Police Department felt this was a significant enough of an incident to write up an incident report. She further explained that Vice Chair Culver had indicated he was representing the City and he was with Don Logan's department. She reported that commissioners' cannot take it upon themselves to represent the Commission without first having the issue placed on the agenda and voted on.

Vice Chair Culver remarked his next comment is regarding a personal issue. He announced that he would be going through the change next week and would prefer not to be called Ken. He further remarked they could call him Michelle. Dr. McMillan explained that she has discussed this issue with the City's Legal Department and they advised her that the City's position is that Ken Culver was appointed to the Commission so that is how he should be referred to.

Commissioner Seiden stated with regard to meeting with the ADL, she felt the timing was not right and we should wait until after the bond election.

Commissioner Gendron stated Donna Sewell who shared with him an incident that occurred at Greasewood Flats where two teenagers were not permitted to pick up their takeout approached him. He provided the details of the incident noting Ms. Sewell felt this was a color issue. He inquired what agency would handle this complaint. Chair Tutelman replied the US Attorney General's Office or the US Attorney's Office noting both offices have the power to do something about it. Dr. McMillan stated the Commission has the authority to provide referrals and resource information. She suggested inviting Ms. Sewell to a Commission meeting.

Commissioner Gendron stated that it is his opinion this woman feels uncomfortable complaining because she is afraid of retribution in her neighborhood.

Commissioner Tyler reported in the October 12th Wall Street Journal there is an article regarding diversity.

Commissioner Gendron made a motion to commend the Diversity office for doing an outstanding job on the Hispanic Heritage Celebration. Second by Commissioner Seiden and passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

“For the Record” Court Reporters.